

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 03574 251610Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /026 W
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O R 251522Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4672
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 3574

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS) LE
SUBJ: SECRETARY'S VISIT TO LEBANON - BROAD OUTLINE

REF: (A) BEIRUT 3329, (B) STATE 159150, (C) STATE 165352,
(D) STATE 165751, (E) STATE 173059, (F) STATE 171992,
(G) STATE 171243

1. SUMMARY: WE ANTICIPATE SECRETARY'S VISIT TO BEIRUT
WILL BE ESSENTIALLY REPLAY OF FEBRUARY VISIT, AND WILL PRESENT
NO NEW PROBLEMS. END SUMMARY.

2. GENERAL SCENARIO. EMBOFF CALLED ON CHIEF OF PRESIDENTIAL
PROTOCOL KHALIL HADDAD AND ON CHIEF OF PROTOCOL IN FOREIGN
MINISTRY ABBAS HAMIEH. BOTH BELIEVE THAT MOST PLAUSIBLE
SCENARIO WOULD CONSIST OF SAME THREE MAIN EVENTS AS
FEBRUARY VISIT: (1) MEETING OF ENTIRE DELEGATION WITH
LEBANESE DELEGATION; (2) RESTRICTED MEETING OF SECRETARY
WITH PRESIDENT SARKIS; AND (3) LUNCH OFFERED BY PRESIDENT.
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ORDER OF EVENTS TO BE DETERMINED BY EXACT ARRIVAL AND
DEPARTURE TIMES.

3. MEETING WITH PRESIDENT SARKIS. DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL
DIFFICULTIES ON FEBRUARY VISIT CONCERNING U.S. PARTICIPATION
IN MEETING WITH PRESIDENT SARKIS. CHIEF OF PROTOCOL
HAMIEH HAS AGAIN EMPHASIZED TO EMBOFF THAT PRESIDENT WOULD

EXPECT TO SEE ENTIRE OFFICIAL U.S. PARTY AT LUNCHEON BUT "STRONGLY PREFERS" THAT HIS MEETING WITH SECRETARY BE ATTENDED ONLY REPEAT ONLY BY FOREIGN MINISTER BOUTROS AND MYSELF. AMBASSADOR'S COMMENT: GIVEN STRONGLY EMPHASIZED AND REPEATED INDICATIONS OF PREFERENCE OF SARKIS' IN THIS REGARD, I BELIEVE WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO ACCEDE. PLEASE ADVISE.

4. LARGE MEETING. GOL WILL TAILOR SIZE OF ITS DELEGATION TO SIZE OF U.S. DELEGATION. DELEGATION PROBABLY WILL INCLUDE PRIME MINISTER HOSS, FOREIGN MINISTER BOUTROS, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY NAJIB DAHDAH, DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS ANTOINE FATTAL, DIRECTOR OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS ADEL ISMAIL (AND/OR ISMAIL'S SUCCESSOR, KHALIL ITANI).

5. LUNCH. PRESIDENT SARKIS WILL INVITE ENTIRE U.S. OFFICIAL PARTY TO LUNCH PLUS A FEW OF HIS OWN KEY CONFIDANTS.

6. WE WOULD HAVE LIKED TO PROPOSE TRIP BY MRS. VANCE TO BYBLOS, ONE OF LEBANON'S MOST FAMOUS ARCHEOLOGICAL SITES (REFTEL E), BUT THIS NOT POSSIBLE ON A FOUR-HOUR VISIT. MRS. BOUTROS (WHO WILL ACT AS HOSTESS) PROPOSES LUNCH AT CHEZ TEMPOREL (NEAR U.S. EMBASSY) AND VISIT TO NATIONAL MUSEUM, WHICH HAS EXTENSIVE ARCHEOLOGICAL EXHIBITS. WE HOPE ALSO TO ENLIST SERVICES OF MAURICE SHIHAB, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF CONFIDENTIAL

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ANTIQUITIES.

7. GIFTS. GOL IS COMPLETELY AGREEABLE THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO REPEAT NO EXCHANGE OF GIFTS (REFTEL F).

8. SECURITY. WE ENVISION LANDING AND TRAVEL ON THE GROUND ARRANGEMENTS SIMILAR TO FEBRUARY VISIT. ALTHOUGH AIRPORT SECURITY SITUATION IS NOW BETTER THAN IN FEBRUARY, IT IS EXTREMELY BUSY PLACE. WE THEREFORE ARE UNENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT IDEA THAT STAFF GROUP BE PERMITTED TO MOVE FREELY BETWEEN AIRPLANE AND TERMINAL BUILDING (AS PROPOSED REFTTEL C). WE WOULD PREFER THAT STAFF GROUP EITHER STAY ON AIRPLANE, OR--AS ON FEBRUARY TRIP--TRAVEL TO AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE AT YARZE. NEVERTHELESS, IF DEPARTMENT FEELS STRONGLY, WE COULD ARRANGE USE OF VIP LOUNGE AT AIRPORT BY STAFF GROUP. LOUNGE DOES NOT HAVE MUCH TO OFFER, HOWEVER. PLEASE ADVISE.

9. ARRANGEMENTS FOR TRAVELING PRESS. WE ASSUME TRAVELING PRESS WILL WANT TO BE PRESENT AT PRESIDENTIAL PALACE FOR ANY PUBLIC STATEMENTS. ACCORDINGLY, WE BELIEVE THAT ALL TRAVELING PRESS SHOULD FOLLOW OFFICIAL PARTY CONVOY--AS ON FEBRUARY TRIP--AND, AFTER ARRIVAL SCENE AT BAABDA, PROCEED

TO AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE AT YARZE, WHERE WE CAN INSTALL TWO
PHONE LINES AND TWO TELEX MACHINES, AND MAKE LUNCH AVAILABLE.
AIRPORT BASE OF OPERATIONS FOR TRAVELING PRESS WILL PRESENT
PROBLEMS OF SECURITY AND CONTROL. NO FILING FACILITIES ARE
PRESENTLY AVAILABLE AT AIRPORT TERMINAL (REFTEL C), BUT UNDER
SCENARIO WE ENVISION, THEY WOULD NOT BE NECESSARY. PLEASE
ADVISE.

10. S/S LIAISON OFFICER, SHOULD HE BE NEEDED, WILL BE
POLITICAL OFFICER JAMES YELLING, WHO HAS BEEN IN BEIRUT FOR
EIGHT MONTHS AND IS FULLY CONVERSANT WITH BOTH PLANNING
FOR VISIT AND LOCAL POLITICAL SITUATION. CONTROL OFFICER IS
POLITICAL OFFICER PAUL MOLINEAUX.

PARKER

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